

## **REMARKS**

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.114, Applicant has submitted a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) of the above-referenced patent application. Additionally, the above-referenced patent application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action, dated **June 14, 2005**, in which claims 1, 3, 5, 6, 8, 10, 11, 13, and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wei et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,515,967, “Wei”) in view of Crager et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,048,672, “Crager). Claims 16-18 were also rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Wei in view of Crager and further in view of Keeley et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,464,717). In response, Applicant and the Examiner conducted an Examiner Interview on July 8, 2005. The substance of the discussions between Applicant and the Examiner during the Interview will be captured in an Examiner Interview summary to be submitted by the Examiner.

### **Current Status of Claims:**

With this amendment, claims 1, 5, 6, 10, 13, and 15-18 remain pending. Applicant has canceled claims 3, 5 and 13. Applicant offers to amend claims 1, 6, 11, and 16-18 as presented above. In addition, Applicant has introduced new claims 19-22. Support for new claims 19-22 can be found in the original specification, claims and/or figures. In this regard, no new matter has been introduced.

**Rejection of Claims:**

Applicant thanks the Examiner for agreeing during the Interview that claims 1, 6 and 11, as amended above, are likely patentable over the prior art of record (Wei and Crager). In addition, Applicant notes that claims 5, 10, 13, and 15-18 each depend from one of independent claims 1, 6 or 11. Thus, Applicant respectfully requests that Examiner withdraw the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection of independent claims 1, 6 and 11 and dependent claims 5, 10, 13, and 15-18.

**Conclusion**

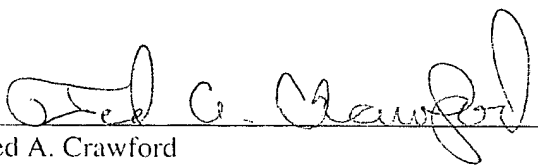
Applicant respectfully submits that claims 5, 6, 10, 13, and 15-22 are in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited. *The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is believed that such contact would further the examination of the present application.*

Please charge any shortages and credit any overcharges to our Deposit Account number 50-0221.

Respectfully submitted,  
David Harriman.

Date: 8/4/05

by:



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